Applicant: Jaap Herman Van't Hoff
Attorney's Docket No.: 17042-004001

Serial No.: 10/657,250

Filed: September 9, 2003

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

When the pressure in the container starts to decrease as a result of a user drawing fluid from the container, this has as a consequence that the pressure in the inner space 2 of the container will decrease. Via the opening 28, the pressure in the space 30 will then likewise decrease. The pressure in the second chamber 6 will then be higher than the pressure in the space 30. The result is that the plunger in FIG. 1 will move to the right under the influence of the prevailing pressure in the second chamber 6 and the prevailing pressure in the inner space 2 of the container. As a result, the opening 16 is released. When the opening 16 is released, this entails the release of a fluid connection between the first chamber 4 and the inner space 2 of the container. This fluid connection extends through the opening 16 and through the opening 28. Because the pressure in the first chamber 4 is higher than the pressure in the inner space 2 of the container, gas will start to flow from the first chamber 4 to inner space 2 of the container. As a result, the pressure in the inner space 2 of the container will start to rise again. At a certain moment, the pressure in the inner space 2, and hence also the pressure in the space 30, has risen to the extent where the plunger 8 will be moved to the left again and eventually close the opening 16 again. In this way, again a state of equilibrium is achieved, with the pressure in the inner space 2 of the container back at the original level. In this example, the volume of the first chamber is much greater than the volume of the second chamber. As a result, on the one hand sufficient gas can be received in the first chamber 4 to restore the pressure in the container a large number of times. On the other hand, the small second chamber 6 is advantageous in that it enables a compact design of the device. In this example, the volume of the second chamber 6 is dependent on the position of the closing member relative to the second chamber. Also, in this example, a sidewall 32 of the first chamber is provided with the opening 16 through which the fluid connection extends. Further, a sidewall of the second chamber is provided with the opening 18. In fact, the opening 18 is formed by the open end of the cylinder 10. Further, the

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closing member extends from the first chamber 4 via the openings 16 and 18 to the second chamber 6. A first subsurface 34 of the closing member is situated in the second chamber 6. The second subsurface forms a cavity in the plunger of the closing member. As further shown in FIG. 1, extending from the second subsurface are leg-members to guide the plunger along the walls of the second chamber. Because the surface of the first subsurface 34 is much smaller than the surface of the second subsurface 36, the force which is exerted on the closing member as a result of the pressure of the gas will be determine to a relatively slight extent by the pressure in the first chamber 4. The prevailing pressure in the second chamber 6, as well as the pressure in the inner space 30, yield comparatively much greater forces that are exerted on the closing member 8. Accordingly, the form of the first and second subsurface is such that a certain gas pressure exerted on the first subsurface results in a force in a direction of movement of the closing member that is smaller than the force in direction of movement of the closing member which results when this gas pressure is exerted on the second subsurface. The state of equilibrium in which the fluid connection, i.e. the opening 16, is closed is therefore substantially determined by the pressure prevailing in the second chamber 6 and is at least substantially independent of the pressure prevailing in the first chamber 4.